



Meeting Notes

Outdoor Lighting Focus Group Meeting

2:00 p.m. – Tuesday, June 16, 2009

APS Conference Room, 101 West Cherry Ave, Flagstaff, AZ

1. Welcome and Introductions

In attendance:

Gerry Craig, Citizen
Roger Eastman, City of Flagstaff
Dennis Dixon, Contractor
John Grahame, Dark Skies Coalition
Michael Knapp, The Lite Company
Ed Larsen, City of Flagstaff
Chuck Ley, City of Flagstaff
Wes Lockwood, Citizen
Chris Luginbuhl, Navel Observatory
Steve Nelson, Dark Skies Coalition
Mark Sawyers, City of Flagstaff
Erick Souders, Friends of Flagstaff
Mary Jo Tsitouris, City of Flagstaff

2. Recap Focus Group purpose

The Focus Group will be outcome focused with a strong emphasis on general issues rather than getting into the details of technical code review. A primary goal is to ensure that the code implements the Regional Plan.

3. Discussion regarding outdoor lighting and related issues associated with the rewrite of the Land Development Code

Mr. Eastman provided an introduction to the concept of transect with a PowerPoint presentation. He noted that transects are based on character, not use, and adaptable to local needs. Transect zones provide opportunities to address unique needs for each zone.

The group concluded that they would like to keep the current astronomical zones, but adapt the zones to the Transect.

It was noted that the issue of the "gaping hole" in the code where non-conformities are concerned is an important issue and will be left on the table for further discussion.

Mr. Lockwood identified his top three priorities as follows: 1) Purpose; 2) Identification of problem sections in code; and 3) Refining residential lighting standards.

Since the Purpose had been defined at the last meeting this issue was not discussed. Identification of problem sections in the code will require further input from staff and/or customers.

There was expanded discussion in reference to refining the residential lighting standards. It was decided that the group needs to compile a list of specific items to be included in the new Code and then the list will be forwarded to and addressed by the consultant.

Additional points were made during the residential lighting discussion:

It was noted that HOAs are developing their own residential lighting standards because the City's standards are too weak. Mr. Luginbuhl and Mr. Lockwood stated that they would research HOA residential lighting standards and provide general ideas for further group discussion at the next meeting.

It was pointed out that when sports lighting is being utilized, it accounts for 1/3 of the light pollution in Flagstaff.

The group discussed "lumens" vs. "candle power." It was noted that lumens are easier to understand and apply to all uses. The current issue is that lumens are not refined enough and shielding requirements must be added. The Code needs to better define lumens and shielding requirements for outdoor lighting. It was also noted that the Code is based on lumens per acre and the group would like the new code to have a lumens per fixture "cap."

The group would like the new Code only allow LPS lighting in parking areas (delete the word "preferred").

It was decided that good color rendition should be allowed for pedestrian use – i.e. walkways to and from buildings and areas where people congregate (i.e. Heritage Square) but not areas that pedestrians walk through (parking areas).

Add to zones II and III the regulation currently in zone I to add 10% white light to LPS lighting to achieve better color rendition.

The group would like to further discuss inside lighting spilling outdoors at our next meeting. Chris L. has already prepared draft code language on this issue.

4. Next meeting: June 30, 2009, at 2:00 pm.
5. Adjournment at 3:29 pm.

Outdoor Lighting Focus Group Meeting

Summary Notes – Revised based on June 16th meeting



RESOLVED ISSUES	FURTHER DISCUSSION
Ensure coordination with IBC and other codes - Street lights on private streets need to comply with Eng. Stds.	
New lights on existing buildings – fix the loop hole	Identify problem sections in the code Where are there frequent violations? – staff input required [Next meeting – June 30 th]
Interior lighting spilling to exterior	Clearer defined residential standards - Issues regarding new manufactured homes [Next meeting – June 30 th]
Update sports lighting section – Wes to provide	Transect - Split residential and commercial Retail business lighting Multi-family lighting - safety/ design concerns Pedestrian lighting Color rendition (auto dealers and other businesses)
LED and CFL lighting – and other technology advances need to be addressed in code; motion sensors	
Neon lighting only on Route 66 as part of sign design (historic areas) Neon lighting (Route 66)	Revisit definitions of fixtures, etc.
Revisit purpose – too astronomical? Broaden based on other communities - Energy efficiency also as a purpose (June 16 th)	Landscape lighting and other “up” lighting – architectural lighting
Educate the group - Lumens verses “candle power” (June 16 th)	Winter holiday lights – more restrictions?
Issue of LPS lighting in parking areas with pedestrian activity pathways permitted to have white/color rendition light (June 16 th)	Light curfew (enforcement?) -Parking lots -Schools
	Consider “comprehensive lighting plan” similar to that for comp. sign plan?
	Incentives for removal of non-conforming lights?
	Cross reference to IDA list of dark sky approved/friendly fixtures

NOT APPLICABLE	NEW ITEMS
Lighting inventory	
Educational issues - Fixture availability -Residential/Commercial -City's webpage -Cityscape -Other -Additional handout materials	
Local merchants promote correct lights - Dark Sky compliance stickers	

PURPOSE: Statements/phrases that need to be included in the general Purpose statement include:

Astronomical observations
 Dark skies
 Energy efficient
 Natural resource and part of natural environment
 Minimize light pollution and glare
 Safety, security and productivity
 Flexibility in lighting provision
 Night time aesthetics
 Enjoyment of the night sky
 Require rather than encourage
 Health benefits
 Tourism – by-product of dark sky
 Impact on wildlife – bird migration
 Promote good lighting design
 Strive to be a model dark sky city
 Great community value